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HISTORY OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL



WITH A LIST OF THE GOVERNORS.



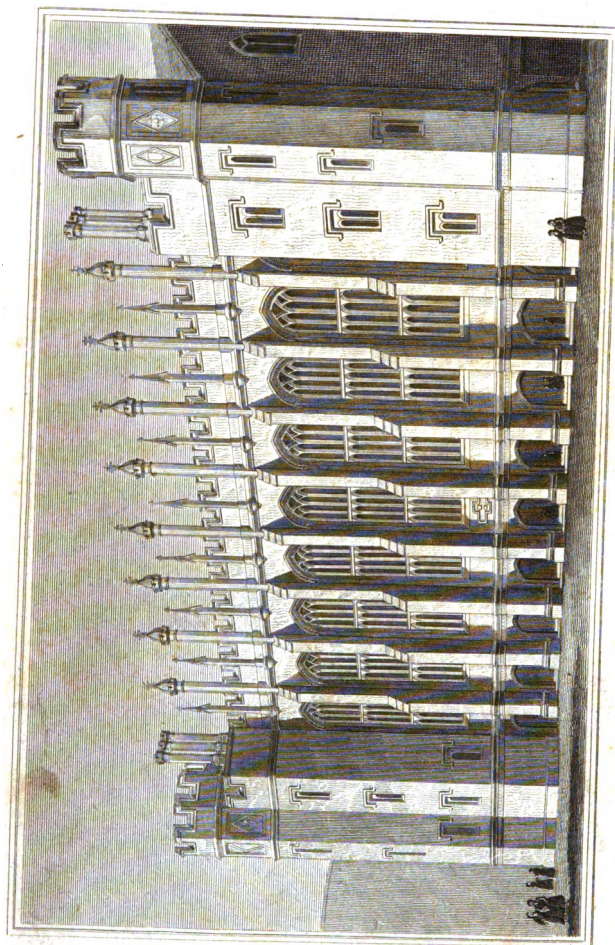
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CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

W. I. CATLINE, Printer,
Jamaica Row, Bermondsey.







S. M. Gertrude's Hospital

S. C. View of the front of the new St. M. Gertrude's Hospital.

A
BRIEF HISTORY
OF
CHRIST'S HOSPITAL,
WITH A LIST OF THE GOVERNORS.

FIFTH EDITION.



LONDON:
EFFINGHAM WILSON, ROYAL EXCHANGE;
AND HURST, CHANCE, AND Co. ST. PAUL'S CHURCH YARD.
MDCCCXXX.



ADVERTISEMENT.

This little Work has been compiled chiefly for the convenience of persons who are desirous of getting Children into CHRIST'S HOSPITAL. The sale of four editions has established its utility, and the fifth (containing much new matter, and a portrait of the Founder as an additional embellishment,) is presented to the public, with, it is hoped, increased claims to support. Directions for obtaining Presentations, and also how to proceed when obtained, will be found. That other means than those laid down in this book may have been resorted to, is not attempted to be denied, but parties should be cautious how they endeavour to gain Presentations by underhand means, as a discovery of such practices would disqualify them from receiving any of the benefits of the Institution. It is hoped that this little Work will also protect the unwary from the impositions of persons who pretend to be able to obtain Presentations for a trifling sum of money.

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EDWARD VI.

From an Original Painting by Holbein in the Court Room of Christ's Hospital.

BRIEF HISTORY

OF

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.

'The sight of a place where I had not been for many years, revived in my thoughts the tender images of my childhood, which, by a great length of time had contracted a softness that rendered them inexpressibly agreeable. As it is usual with me to draw a sweet unenvied pleasure from a thousand incidents overlooked by other men, I threw myself into a short transport, forgetting my age, and fancying myself a school-boy.'

Guardian, No. 62.

THE site of this extensively useful and truly national Foundation formed, in the monkish æra, a portion of the land belonging to the religious houses; and as such was seised by the rapacious Henry at the general dissolution of those establishments in 1537. The religious belonging to this settlement were of the order of Franciscans, or Friars Minors, more commonly known by the appellation of Grey or Mendicant Friars.

Unlike the greater portion of the spoils of the Reformation, this spot was granted to the City of London for charitable uses; and was one of the few instances in which the lands seised into the King's hands were converted to

purposes more generally useful than before. By far too great a portion, it is well known, was given to the court favourites of the day; by which the poor were deprived of the alms they had for ages received from the gates of the Monastery, without receiving an equivalent in any other shape.

The grant of King Henry remained a dead letter from the year 1537 till 1552, when his son and successor, King Edward the Sixth, at the suggestion of the pious Bishop Ridley, sent an invitation to Sir Richard Dobbs, at that time Lord Mayor of London, to join in the foundation of Christ's Hospital, for the maintenance and education of orphan children. The King upon this occasion not only confirmed the grant of his father, but further endowed the Hospital with lands and tenements belonging to the Savoy to the amount of 600*l. per annum*, and other benefactions, one of which was a licence to take lands in mortmain to the amount of 4000 marks yearly.

As the foundation of the Hospitals of St. Bartholomew, St. Thomas, and Bridewell, were at the same time in agitation, the King granted a charter of incorporation to the City of London, under the title of 'The Mayor, Commonalty, and Citizens of the City of London, Governors of the Possessions, Revenues, and Goods of

'the Hospitals of Edward the Sixth, King of England.'

This charter, with the endowments of the King, so animated the Citizens, that in less than six months that building which had been for so many ages the sombre residence of the rigid professors of the discarded religion, became metamorphosed into the lively asylum of the rising generation under the reformed system of education; and three hundred and forty boys were admitted to occupy the apartments so recently deserted by the poor mendicants.

The dress of the boys first admitted was a sort of russet, but this was soon changed for the dress they now wear, which is at present the most complete representation of the monkish habit in existence. What is now called the coat was the ancient tunic, and the petticoat (or yellow, as it is technically termed,) was the sleeveless or under tunic of the monastery. The girdle round the waist was also an appendage of the monkish habit; but the breeches are a subsequent addition. To this is to be added the small round cap, an appendage that touches the delicate nerves of those who would introduce effeminate habits into the school, while it has never been known to injure those who have for years either worn it or carried it in their hands. It is to be hoped the day is far distant when the

Governors shall find nothing better to deliberate upon than what innovation they are to make in a dress that has stood the test of centuries, and become venerable from its antiquity.

From this period the Hospital continued increasing in size and national importance, but principally through the private benefactions of wealthy citizens; those who had shared so largely the distribution of ecclesiastical property, not being the most forward in supplying that loss which the dissolution of religious houses had entailed on the poor.

Among the early benefactors to Christ's Hospital was Sir William Chester, Knt. and Alderman, who built the walls adjoining St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and John Calthorpe, esq. citizen and draper, who arched over the town ditch from Aldersgate to Newgate, it being offensive to the Hospital.

Christ's Hospital suffered materially in the dreadful conflagration of 1666, which laid waste a great portion of the City; but the liberality and activity of the corporation, aided and assisted by their fellow citizens and others with loans and donations, soon repaired the injury. It appeared in fact a calamity calculated above all others to bring forward the wealthy citizens of that period with their princely benefactions; among whom appeared conspicuous, Sir Robert

Clayton, and Sir John Frederick, successively Presidents of the Hospital.

In the year 1672, after the Hospital had withstood the political storms and tempests of one hundred and twenty years, during which the violent convulsions of the state had threatened destruction to every national establishment, King Charles the Second made a most important addition to it, by the foundation of a Mathematical School, for the instruction of forty boys in navigation, and endowed it for seven years with one thousand pounds, and an annuity of 370*l.* 10*s.* payable out of the exchequer, for the special purpose of educating and placing out yearly ten boys in the sea service. Five of these boys pass an examination before the Elder Brothers of the Trinity House every six months previous to their entering the naval profession.

The King's boys were annually presented by the President to the King upon New Year's day, when that festival was observed at Court, and afterwards upon the Queen's birth-day; but the practice was entirely discontinued from the commencement of his late Majesty's lamentable illness. These boys wear a badge upon the left shoulder, the figures upon which represent Arithmetic, with a scroll in one hand, and the other placed upon a boy's head; Geometry with a triangle in her hand; and Astronomy with a quad-

rant in one hand and a sphere in the other. Round the plate is inscribed, 'Auspicio Caroli Secundi Regis, 1673.'

Mr. Stone, a Governor, also bequeathed a sum of money for the maintenance of twelve boys as a subordinate mathematical school; which by subsequent regulations is made an introductory step to King Charles's foundation. The boys are distinguished from those upon the King's foundation by wearing the badge upon the right shoulder instead of the left; and are called the *Twelves* on account of their number.

In 1675 the re-building of the south front (the most uniform part of the old fabric) was undertaken under the superintendence of Mr. Thomas Firmin, a gentleman whose charitable disposition was so well known, that various sums of money were intrusted to his disposal by persons who wished their own names to remain concealed. The following anecdote is related as the immediate cause of the erection of what was at that period designated a 'magnificent structure.'

Sir Robert Clayton, in the year 1675, had a severe fit of illness, and upon his recovery was fully impressed with the necessity of making some acknowledgement to Almighty God for his late merciful goodness towards him. Mr. Firmin, an intimate friend of the Knight's, was consulted upon the subject, who recommended that some-

thing should be done for Christ's Hospital, which since the fire of London had been left in its ruins. The expence of erecting the south front was estimated at 5000*l*. which was to be borne jointly by Sir Robert Clayton and Mr. Morice, his partner, and Mr. Firmin was strictly enjoined to keep concealed the names of the benefactors. Further improvements were afterwards projected and in part adopted, which considerably exceeded the original estimate; and Mr. Morice dying in the interval, the whole expence fell upon Sir Robert.

Party spirit ran high in the City about this period, and the political factions caused so great a ferment in the public mind, that the Corporation for a time at least, lost their charter, and this public spirited officer was removed from the Magistracy, and from the government of the Hospital. This it was that called forth the manly zeal of Mr. Firmin, who took the earliest opportunity of informing the remaining Governors, that he whom they had displaced was the very man who had borne the whole expence of the improvements which for some time had been carrying on in the Hospital; and but for this act of ingratitude his name had for ever remained concealed.

In 1680 Sir John Frederick, at that time President, caused a survey to be taken of the great

Hall, when it was found to be so dilapidated, that he ordered it to be pulled down and rebuilt. This was done at his sole charge, which exceeded 5000*l*.

In 1683 the Governors were enabled to erect a handsome building at Hertford, for the accommodation of both boys and girls. The building forms three sides of a quadrangle, with the addition of a square building erected in 1800, at the north-west angle of the original edifice, containing a Hall 100 feet long by 40 wide, and a lofty airy Infirmary. The Hertford establishment is confined to the younger children, among whom the much approved system of Dr. Bell has been introduced.

The 80 girls belonging to the foundation are also kept at Hertford, and are taught, besides reading, writing, and arithmetic, all kinds of plain needle-work, and to knit the boys' stockings. This establishment, when full, contains upwards of 400 boys, which, added to the establishment in London, makes upwards of 1150, including the 80 girls; but there is no limitation as to number.

In 1694 Sir John Moore, Knt. and Alderman, and at that time President, added greatly to the beauty and utility of the Hospital by the foundation of a Writing-school.

In 1705 Sir Francis Child, Knt. rebuilt the

Ward over the east cloister, as appears from the following inscription in front of the building. 'Anno 1705. This Ward was re-built at the sole charge of Sir Francis Child, Knt. sometime Lord Mayor, and now President of this House.'

In 1724 Samuel Travers, Esq. gave the residue of his estate by will to the Hospital, for the maintenance of as many sons of Lieutenants of the Navy as the income would support, which is generally between 40 and 50.

In 1780 John Stock, Esq. by will bequeathed 3000*l.* to the Hospital, for the support and maintenance of four boys, two of whom are to be taught Navigation, and the other two to be brought up to Trades. The right of presentation for the boys who are to learn navigation is vested in the Comptroller of the Navy; and in the parish of Christchurch and the Drapers' Company for those to be brought up to Trades. Applicants of the name of Stock to be preferred. The boys for the sea being educated under the same master as the King's boys, those upon Mr. Stone's foundation are distinguished by the name of the *Twos*.

After the lapse of a century from the building of the Writing-school, a handsome new Grammar-school was erected on the north side of the Ditch, a play-ground so named from the circumstance of the town ditch running under it,

as before noticed. This spacious building was erected in the year 1793, during the Treasurership of Mr. Alderman Gill.

For the next 25 years the Governors endeavoured by continued repairs to make the several buildings answer the purposes for which they were respectively intended; but increasing dilapidation obliged them within these few years to pull down and rebuild no inconsiderable portion of the old fabric. A new Infirmary, with all the additional comforts and conveniences afforded by the improvements in building, was erected in 1822; and in October, 1824, the first stone of the new Hall was laid by his Royal Highness the Duke of York, the old building being found so totally dilapidated, that the Governors were obliged to pull it down even before the new one was finished. The Dormitories have been erected at such various periods that no particular account of them can be given; indeed the whole fabric is such a mixture of styles as to set all regular description at defiance. The last remnant of the old Priory, with its pointed windows (a view of which is given in the enlarged History of Christ's Hospital) has been recently removed to make way for the towering pinnacles of the new Hall; and the remainder is a mixture of the modern styles of domestic architecture.

For the purpose of noticing more particularly the different buildings a perambulation of the boundary may not be uninteresting. Entering at the Grey Friars' Gate, the new Hall, the Mathematical School, and the new Dormitories built upon the site of the old Hall, come at once within view.

The HALL is an elegant specimen of Gothic architecture, the first stone of which was laid by his Royal Highness the Duke of York, in October, 1824, and was opened for public use on the 29th of May, 1829. Viewed from the area at the back of the houses in Newgate-street, the windows have a most imposing effect. It is built upon arches which form a noble cloister, and over the centre is recorded the names of the officers of the Institution under whose superintendence the building has been erected (see the Frontispiece). The inscription, which is surmounted by a bust of King Edward, is in the following words: ' This Hall, erected by public
' munificence, was opened for the use of the
' children of Christ's Hospital, on the 29th day
' of May, 1829 ; The Right Honourable William
' Thompson, M. P. Lord Mayor, President ;
' Thomas Poynder, jun. Esq. Treasurer ; James
' Shaw, F.A.S. Architect ' The entrance to the interior is through a corresponding arch on the opposite side of this cloister, and is approached

by a spacious flight of stone steps. The dimensions of this magnificent room are, 187 feet long, by 51½ wide, and 46½ feet high. A grained oak wainscoting lines the wall to the height of about ten feet; and on one side the pannels are surmounted by carved effigies of the founder, similar to that in the front of the building, but of a smaller size. Coats of arms of the presidents, treasurers, and principal benefactors, from the foundation, with their names, are painted on the wainscoting. The ceiling is chastely ornamented, and the galleries are neatly carved. At the west end is suspended Holbein's picture representing King Edward in the act of presenting the charter to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen; and on the north side Verrio's large picture representing Charles II. surrounded by his Court, giving audience to the corporation and governors of the institution, who are presenting the children. At the west end are raised seats for the accommodation of the Governors and their friends; over which is a gallery for the use of the public upon particular occasions. About the centre of the north side is the pulpit, in which the Grecian reads the prayers, graces, &c. immediately opposite the Steward's table, which is placed underneath a clock, near the centre of the south side. A few feet below the pulpit, on the north side, is an entrance from the Kitchen, which is

conveniently situated, with the Buttery, underneath the Hall. At the east end of the Hall, underneath the organ gallery, is a good room, into which you enter from the principal staircase, and from which a view of the children at their meals may be obtained, as at the old Hall; but the convenience of visitors has been further studied by the Governors, for of the two galleries over this room, one is exclusively, and the other (the organ gallery) partially, for the use of the public. At the back of the upper gallery are two small painted windows, upon which are represented the figures of Faith, Hope, Truth, and Justice; and between the windows on the south side are four full length portraits of benefactors. The interior fittings are in excellent taste, and harmonize with the character of the building. There is neither superfluity of ornament nor want of decoration; and the general effect is consequently at once grand and imposing. At the opening of the Hall it was particularly so, when, in addition to the gratifying sight of 800 healthy boys ranged on either side of the long tables, which reach from one extremity of the building to the other, there could not have been less than 1500 visitors, most of them ladies. Among the distinguished persons present were, Prince Leopold, Dukes of Norfolk and Devonshire, Marquis Camden, Earls Spen-

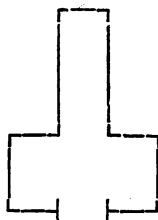
cer, Darnley, Surrey, and Clarendon, Lords Stamford and Althorpe, the Bishop of Llandaff, the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and most of the Aldermen.

The ceremony commenced with a prayer by the Bishop of Llandaff, as Dean of Saint Paul's, in the absence of the Bishop of London, who was prevented from attending by indisposition. Recitations by the two senior scholars followed—the first in Latin by J. T. White, the second Grecian; and the other in English by F. R. Begbie, the senior Grecian. The subject, the erection of the Hall, was treated with considerable ability, and the neatness and purity which pervaded the Latin verses excited universal admiration. Both orations were delivered in a manner that reflected the greatest credit upon the youths, and also upon the Rev. Mr. Greenwood, the head classical master. After dinner an anthem was sung by the boys, under the direction of Mr Hawes, Mr. Glen performing on the organ. 'God save the King' was then sung in full chorus by the children, who at the conclusion united in three hearty cheers for 'The King, God bless him'. Having made their obeisances to the distinguished visitors, the boys retired, and were soon after followed by the company.

About the centre of the cloister under the Hall, a corresponding arch to those in front

leads to the Kitchen, and also to the new Infirmary. The Kitchen being immediately under the Hall is most conveniently situated for the supply of both sick and convalescent; the Infirmary being situated close behind it.

The Infirmary is a substantial brick building of an irregular form, somewhat resembling the form annexed, and built with such regard to security against fire, that it may be said to be fire proof.



The situation of this building is such that a view of it can scarcely be obtained. Standing as it does with one side against the back of the Writing School, and the south front immediately behind the new Hall, it is completely hidden by those more important buildings. But the Infirmary has hitherto been, and it is hoped will long remain, an almost useless appendage to the foundation; the number of invalids seldom exceeding twenty.

The building on the east side of the area at Grey Friars' Gate is a less splendid specimen of the same style, and is intended for Dormitories. The space occupied is that of the old Hall, and some Dormitories behind it, which were built over what was formerly the Grammar-school; but since the erection of the new Grammar-school, had been thrown open, and used as a portion of the play-ground.

The MATHEMATICAL-SCHOOL joins the south end of the building just mentioned, and is a light airy structure of the reign of King Charles the Second. Over the entrance in a niche, in front of the school-room, is a statue of the founder in his robes, with the inscription,

‘Carolus II. Fundator, 1672.’

This building, although light, airy, and tolerably convenient, is in no sort of keeping with those to which it is attached. From its dilapidated appearance this is a matter of little consequence; as a few years must remove not only this building, but the whole south front, when it is hoped that the new structure will correspond with the Hall, and thus present, either from the Grey Friars or Church entrance, a building that will prove both ornamental and convenient.

The entrance to the Hospital from this gate has been closed for the last few years: it leads to the Cloisters, which form a quadrangle, the area forming a play-ground, called the Garden, probably from its having been once the garden belonging to the old Priory. It is separated from the cloisters by gothic arches. Over the west cloister, stood the old Hall—a noble building, 130 feet in length by 34 in width, and 44 feet high. It was here the boys had their meals; and indeed whenever it was expedient to assemble the whole number together, the Hall was the only

place where it could be done. After removing the paintings, the organ, &c. the materials of this imposing edifice were sold by auction, and that Refectory, where for the space of upwards of 140 years, nearly 800 children had assembled three times a day is now levelled with the dust, and comfortable dormitories have recently been erected on the site. A critical notice of the paintings that adorned its walls may be seen in the enlarged History of the Hospital. Calculating the old Hall to have been in use 140 years; the average number of boys in the Hospital at 800; each boy to remain six years, and to have three meals per day, it will appear that about 18, 400 boys have had about 120,888,000 meals within its walls.

The north end of this cloister leads to another, called the New-cloister, over which is the WRITING SCHOOL, calculated to accommodate about 500 boys, which is said to have cost upwards of 5000*l*. The statue of Sir John Moore was originally placed in a niche at the upper end of the school; but was removed many years back, and now ornaments the front of the building, on the outside. Underneath the statue is the following inscription :

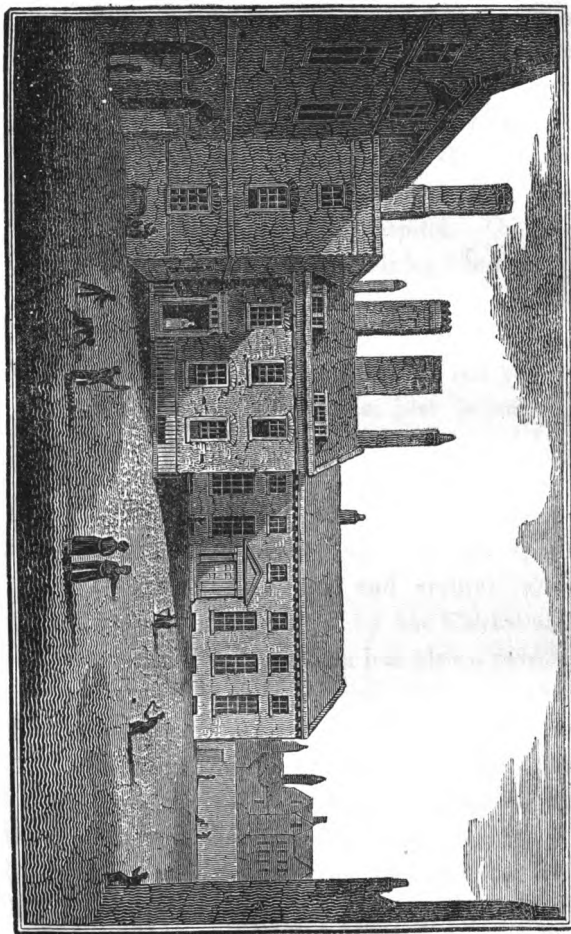
‘ Anno Dom. 1694, This Writing-school and
‘ stately building was begun and completely fi-
‘ nished at the sole charge of Sir John Moore,

‘ Knt. and Lord Mayor of this City in the year
‘ MDCLXXXI. now President of this House; he
‘ having been otherwise a liberal benefactor to
‘ the same.’

Part of the cloister under the Writing-school was inclosed in the year 1819, for the purpose of erecting a convenient Lavatory, suitable, under the judicious regulations adopted, for the whole of the boys to wash themselves in about a quarter of an hour.

Adjoining the north-end of the Writing-school stands the Steward’s house; and the next building on the same side of the play-ground called the Ditch, is the Grammar-school. These two buildings, with the north end of the Writing-school, compose the opposite view.

The GRAMMAR SCHOOL is a handsome airy building of the date of 1793, and is calculated for the accommodation of about 500 children. At the upper end of the school is a portrait of John Smith, esq. who was educated on the foundation, and in 1789 left a sum of money towards rebuilding the Grammar-school, then in a dilapidated state. The style of this building is more to be regretted than that of any other belonging to the Hospital, inasmuch as being a comparatively new one, it is likely to remain for many years a standing monument of the inconsiderate conduct of the gentlemen under whose superin-



tendance it was erected. The Writing-school is of much less consequence, as a few years will probably render it necessary to rebuild it, when there is little fear of any future builders erring after the pattern that is now being set for them.

At the extremity of the north-east corner of the Ditch are three commodious residences for the Masters, adjoining what is at present the only good entrance to the Hospital. On the south side of this entrance, adjoining the Lodge, is the Treasurer's house. The other houses in this play-ground are occupied by the Masters, Matron, and Beadles. The Steward has also a small office on the south side, just below the Writing-school.

Proceeding in a south-easterly direction, we arrive at the south-east entrance from Butcher-hall-lane, Newgate-street; and in this space stands the Counting-house, and several other houses, which are inhabited by the Clerks and the Masters. The Treasurer has also a private entrance to his house at the end of the Counting house, and his garden runs at the back of the Counting-house and the houses adjoining. The building on the opposite side is occupied by the boys. In a niche in the centre, is a statue of King Edward (considered the most perfect one), which represents his Majesty standing on a black marble slab, in the act of delivering the charter.

The Counting-house is an old fashioned brick building, containing a good room on the ground floor for the Clerks, and a handsome Court-room over it, where the Governors meet. At the north end, under a canopy surmounted by the arms of England, stands the President's chair. Beneath the arms is a half-length portrait of King Edward, executed by Hans Holbein, in good preservation, the countenance very fair and delicate. (*See the Portrait, p. 1.*) On his right is a half length of Charles II. by Sir Peter Lely, with a more placid countenance than the generality of his portraits ; and on the left a portrait of James the Second.

Besides the Royal pictures, there are portraits of the following gentlemen who have been Presidents of the Hospital ; Sir Richard Dobbs, knt. (the first President) 1553 ; Sir Wolstan Dixie, knt. Lord Mayor, 1585 ; President 1592 ; Sir John Leman, 1632 ; Sir Christopher Clitherow, 1641 : Sir Thomas Vyner, 1658 ; Sir John Frederick, 1662 ; Sir John Moore, 1684 ; Sir Thomas Forbes, 1727 ; Richard Clark, esq. now Chamberlain of London, 1800. There are also portraits of the following benefactors : Dame Mary Ramsey, 1599 ; Thomas Singleton, esq. 1653 ; Mr. Richard Young, 1661 ; William Gibbon, esq. 1662 ; Erasmus Smith, esq. 1666 ; Thomas Barnes, esq. 1667 ; John Morris, esq. 1670 ; Daniel Col-

wall, esq. 1690 ; John Fowke, esq. 1691 ; Thomas Stretchly, esq. 1692 ; Henry Stone, esq. 1693 ; Thomas Parr, esq. 1748 ; Thomas Dyer, 1748 ; Mr. Dyer, jun. and Mrs. Catherine Dyer ; and James Palmer, esq. the late Treasurer.

In addition to the above, there is also a portrait of a Mr. St. Amand, the grandfather of a benefactor, which, as will appear by the following extract from his will, dated 9th of Aug. 1749, was left to the Hospital under very peculiar circumstances.

James St. Amand, esq. of St. George the Martyr, Queen-square, gave the original picture of his grandfather to Christ's Hospital, upon condition 'that the Treasurer give a receipt to my
' executors and a promise never to alienate the
' said picture ; and as often as a change of Treasurers takes place, every new Treasurer shall
' send a written receipt and promise of the same
' effect to the Vice-chancellor of Oxford. Item,
' I give all the rest of my money and property of
' every description (after the payment of my
' debts legacies, and funeral, and whatever expence attends the execution of this will,) to
' Christ's Hospital. And my will is, that whatever of my effects the Governors of the Hospital shall consider as being of no benefit to
' the Hospital, they, the Governors, shall sell all
' such (except the picture aforesaid) to the best

‘ advantage, and the money arising from the sale
‘ shall go, together with all the money I may
‘ leave in specie or in my banker’s hands un-
‘ disposed of, to purchase 3 *per cent.* Bank Annu-
‘ ities, which annuities, together with securities
‘ for money which I leave behind me, shall be
‘ made one separate stock, *never to be diminished*
‘ by the Hospital, unless my executors require
‘ the aid of a part of the said stock in conse-
‘ quence of an unforeseen expense attending this
‘ my will. My further will is, that the interest
‘ arising from such property (*as long as the Hos-
‘ pital shall preserve the said Picture*) shall be
‘ applied either to increase the number of Blue
‘ Coat children, or for the better assisting such
‘ of the children as may be put out apprentices
‘ by the said Hospital. I further desire that the
‘ aforesaid picture shall be kept in the Treasury
‘ of the said Hospital, and that it annually be
‘ produced at the first General Court held after
‘ the first of January, in every year, and such
‘ part of my will relative to that Hospital shall
‘ be then and there publicly read. I also desire
‘ that the picture shall be shown once annually
‘ to whomsoever the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford
‘ shall send to demand a sight thereof; but in
‘ case the sight be refused to the Vice-Chancellor
‘ or his deputy, then I direct that all my be-
‘ quests given to Christ’s Hospital shall *immedi-*

‘ *ately cease.* And I hereby give and devise the
‘ same from that time to the University of Ox-
‘ ford, to the intent that the University may buy
‘ freehold lands of inheritance, and the rent
‘ arising therefrom to be applied as follows; in
‘ the first place, the chief Bodleian Librarian
‘ shall receive of it as much as will augment his
‘ salary to 120*l.* annually, provided he be a
‘ bachelor. Secondly, the Sub-Librarian, if a
‘ bachelor, shall have his salary augmented to
‘ 70*l. per annum*, which augmentation of salary
‘ shall continue only as long as they remain
‘ bachelors, and shall not be paid again if they
‘ marry, until other Librarians who may be
‘ bachelors are substituted in their room. What
‘ remains after paying them I desire may be ap-
‘ plied to the purchase of manuscripts and good
‘ printed editions of classic authors, such as may
‘ be worthy a place in the Library. In this
‘ manner I desire such money may be disposd of,
‘ as (if either Librarian is married) would con-
‘ tribute to the augmentation of his salary were
‘ he not married.’ One of the executors of this
will was the Rev. Dr. Stukeley, the eminent An-
tiquary.

‘ An erroneous opinion has been entertained,
‘ that this picture is the portrait of *The Pre-*
‘ *tender*, and which probably may have arisen
‘ from the circumstance of one of the ancestors

‘ of Mr. St. Amand having married Asceline, the
‘ daughter of Robert d’Aubigney, of the House
‘ of Stuart, an English Baron in the reign of
‘ Henry the Third.’ *Carlisle’s Endowed Gram-
‘ mar Schools.*

In 1686 John Fowke, esq. bequeathed to the Governors of Christ’s Hospital certain estates in the county of Essex, for the maintenance of eight boys in the said Hospital, two of them to be of the parish of Barking, in the said county.

In the year 1720 John West, esq. and Frances his wife, gave, by an indenture, to the Governors of Christ’s Hospital, certain lands, then producing 24*l.* 8*s.* *per annum.* for the support of as many children as the rent would admit of, at the rate of 10*l.* *per annum* for each child; the children to be put out apprentice in the same manner as the other children in the said Hospital. One fifth of them to be of the parish of Twickenham, and chosen by the inhabitants in vestry assembled. There are generally two boys and one girl upon the foundation, maintained by this bequest.

Nearly opposite the Counting-house is an avenue leading again into the cloisters, at the south end of which is the entrance from Christ Church Passage. Over this gateway is another statue of King Edward, with the following inscription:

‘ Edward the Sixth, of famous memory, King
‘ of England, was the founder of Christ’s Hos-
‘ pital; and Sir Robert Clayton, Knight and
‘ Alderman, sometime Lord Mayor of this City
‘ of London, erected this statue of King Edward,
‘ and built most part of this fabric, anno Dom.
‘ 1682.’

It is only from the passage leading to this gate, and from the backs of the houses in Newgate-street, that the south front of the Hospital can be seen. It is a substantial piece of brick-work, ornamented with pilasters of the Ionic order, with a circular pediment in the centre.

The opposite end of the cloister to the church-gate is the entrance from Grey Friars, which completes the perambulation. Since the publication of the former editions of this little work, the most dilapidated buildings have been removed, and new have supplied their places; but there is yet much to accomplish, as will be seen by the following notice of the proceedings of the Governors upwards of a quarter of a century back.

‘ In 1803 the Governors (after a very parti-
‘ cular survey of the building had been taken,)
‘ came to a resolution to rebuild the whole as
‘ soon as a sufficient sum of money could be
‘ raised for the purpose; to accomplish which a
‘ part of the revenues of the Hospital was de-

‘voted to the establishment of a fund, which was immediately aided by a grant of 5000*l.* from the corporation of London, and has since been enlarged by many private benefactions.’ The writer must here candidly acknowledge that the effect of early impressions is so strong in him, that the beauty and elegance which would no doubt adorn a modern structure, would fall far short of satisfying him for the loss of the present venerable fabric, which is a noble record of the deeds of some of the best men of the ages in which they lived. He has felt no small degree of pleasure, and even pride, in the reflection, that men of the first eminence (many of whom had been dead ages before he was born) had paced those cloisters, habited in the same simple garb, and under the same restrictions as himself.

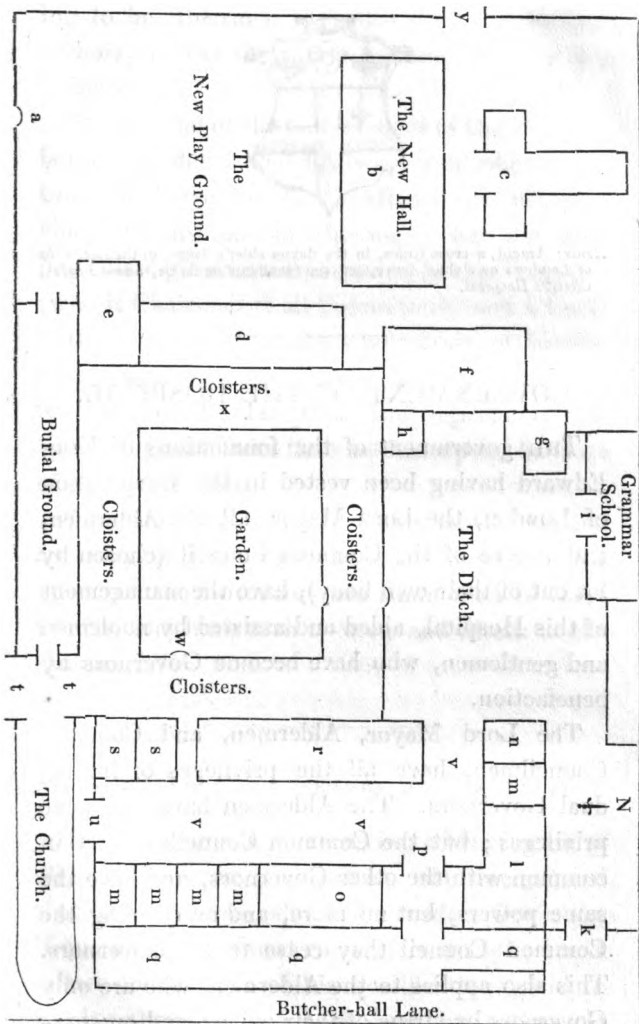
It must be regretted that the different superintendants of the buildings were not actuated by the same feelings, or manifested the same taste, as the building committee of the present day. Had the whole of the additions subsequent to the foundation been in the style of architecture which prevailed at that period, how different would have been its present appearance. By this time, instead of a mixture of styles, the appearance of the Hospital would have been uniform; and, though raised at different periods, the various parts would have harmonized with each

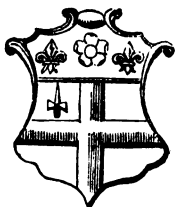
other. As nothing could be more appropriate or add more to the grandeur of its appearance, it is to be hoped that the chaste and elegant appearance of the new hall will be taken as a pattern for all future additions to the Hospital.

EXPLANATION OF THE GROUND-PLAN.

* * * It may be necessary to inform the reader that the ground-plan has only been drawn from memory, not to a scale; but it is hoped that it will be found sufficiently accurate for its purpose, viz. to shew the position of the new buildings.

- a *Entrance from Grey Friars (Lodge Gate).*
- b *The New Hall.*
- c *The New Infirmary.*
- d *New Dormitories behind where the Old Hall stood.*
- e *Mathematical-school.*
- f *Writing-school.*
- g *Steward's-house.*
- h *Steward's-office.*
- i *Grammar-school.*
- k *Entrance from Little Britain (Ditch-gate).*
- l *Treasurer's-house.*
- m m m m *Masters'-houses.*
- n *Matron's-house.*
- o *Counting-house.*
- p *Back entrance to the Treasurer's-house.*
- q q q *Treasurer's garden.*
- r *Dormitories.* s s *Beadles'-houses.*
- t t *Entrance from Newgate-street (Church-gate).*
- u *Entrance from Butcher-hall Lane (Porch-gate).*
- v v v *Counting-house Yard.*
- w *New Pump.*
- x *Over this Cloister the Old Hall stood.*
- y *The entrance from Giltspur-street.*





Arms: Argent, a cross Gules, in the dexter chief a dagger of the last, City of London; on a chief Azure, between two fleurs de lis Or, a rose Argent, Christ's Hospital.

GOVERNMENT OF THE HOSPITAL.

THE government of the foundations of King Edward having been vested in the Corporation of London, the Lord Mayor, all the Aldermen, and twelve of the Common Council (chosen by lot out of their own body), have the management of this Hospital, aided and assisted by noblemen and gentlemen, who have become Governors by benefaction.

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen, have all the privileges of individual Governors. The Aldermen have exclusive privileges; but the Common Councilmen act in common with the other Governors, and have the same powers, but no more, and on quitting the Common Council they cease to be Governors. This also applies to the Aldermen, who are only Governors by virtue of their office; and on ceas-

ing to be Aldermen they also cease to be Governors, unless they have become such by benefaction.

At the head of the Government of the Hospital is the President, who is always a member of the Court of Aldermen, and is elected for life, provided he continues an Alderman; but the more immediate government is vested in the Treasurer (who is Chairman of all Committees) and a Committee, chosen from the whole body of Governors. This Committee has the whole superintendence of the Hospital, and reports to the General Court from time to time upon the state of the foundation.

There are five regularly appointed Courts, and as many others as the business requires; the whole of the Governors are summoned to these Courts, and have each a vote; and fifteen is the quorum.

APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS BY BENEFACTION.

The Treasurer, upon receiving a benefaction of 400*l*. informs the Committee, who recommend that the Gentleman should be made a Governor, if qualified. The Court then refers it to the Committee to consider of his qualifications, and to resolve thereon, which is done by ballot. It

usually follows that the Gentleman is appointed a Governor, no benefactor to that amount having been refused for many years.

The number of Governors added to the list by benefactions from 1806 to 1816 was 105 ; and the amount of their benefactions upwards of 30,000*l.* All the Governors are not made by virtue of having given 400*l.* each. Twenty are to be named in two years by the Governors in rotation. If there are twenty Governors made by virtue of their benefactions, there are no nominations except in the case of a new Alderman being made within the two years. Every Alderman, at the first biennial nomination after he comes into office, is allowed to name a Governor, which Governor is to be a benefactor to the amount of 200*l.* although the full number of twenty should have been nominated on account of benefactions to the amount of 400*l.* In the latter case, the new Alderman names the *twenty-first* Governor, and there is no rotation Governor at all.

The number of Benefaction Governors is not limited; every Governor, nominated in what way soever, must become a benefactor ; but Aldermen and Common Councilmen becoming Governors by virtue of their office are not compelled to become benefactors ; although it will be seen, by a perusal of these pages, that the Hospital is

indebted to Aldermen for some of its principal benefactions : to Sir John Frederick for rebuilding the old Hall, after the fire in 1666; to Sir Robert Clayton, for building the whole of the south front of the Hospital; to Sir John Moore, for building the Writing-school; to Sir Francis Child, for rebuilding the south side of the Garden, opposite the old Hall; and to Alderman Gill, under whose superintendence the new Grammar-school was erected; besides sundry benefactions from Aldermen, to a considerable amount.

Among the benefactors to whose gifts are attached qualifications that require to be known are the following:

Thomas Lockington, esq. for some years Treasurer, gave by will to the President and Governors of the Hospital, after the decease of Mary his wife, certain lands for the admission of two children between seven and ten years of age (either freemen or foreigners) of the name of Lockington; those proving their relationship to be preferred. If no relation claims within three months after the vacancy is advertised, two months are allowed for those who bear the name of Lockington; and if no claimant appears within that time, the parish of Saint Mary, Magdalen, Old Fish-street, London, is entitled by the will of the donor to the presentation.

A Gentleman of the name of Russell, a native of Sherborne, but resident many years in London, where he amassed a large fortune, gave an estate in Hertfordshire to Christ's Hospital, on condition that the Governors should educate, &c. &c. four boys for ever : the vacancies as they occur to be filled up by the Overseers and Churchwardens of Sherborne for the time being.

By will, proved Aug. 20, 1827, Quintin Kay, of Ludgate Hill, Upholsterer, left to the Corporation of Doncaster, the sum of 6000*l.* four per cent. Bank Annuities, and also 2000*l.* three per cent. consolidated annuities, for the purposes therein mentioned; ' but in case of the wilful ' misapplication of the funds of the Corporation, ' the whole of the above sum to go to the Governors of Christ's Hospital, London, for the general purposes thereof for ever.'

MODE OF PRESENTATION.

The Lord Mayor has two presentations annually, one as Alderman and one as Lord Mayor ; the President three, two as President, and one as Alderman ; the other Aldermen have each one presentation annually, provided children are admitted. In 1757 there were no presentations issued, except that they complimented the Lord Mayor with his extra presentation.

The Treasurer has two presentations annually as Treasurer, and one in his turn as Governor. This, and a house within the Hospital, the taxes of which are paid, medical attendance, and the use of the balance in his hands, are the only privileges attached to the office of Treasurer.

The remaining Governors fill up the number of presentations in rotation, beginning each year where the last presentation left off. The following Regulations for the admission of Children into Christ's Hospital, were specially revised and settled at a Court, 28th of April, 1809.

I. That every Governor may present the child of a parent not free of the City of London, nor a Clergyman of the Church of England, either on his first, second, or third presentation, as he shall think proper ; and so on, one in every three presentations.

II. That no children be admitted but such as shall be between the age of seven and ten years, which is to be proved by such certificates, affidavits, and vouchers, as are now, or shall be hereafter required by the orders of the General Court.

III. That a child whose parent or parents has or have two other children under fourteen years of age to maintain, may be admitted by a presentation, although such child has one brother or sister, and no more, already on the charge of this Hospital.

IV. That no child shall be admitted who is a foundling, or maintained at the parish charge.

V. That no children of livery servants, except the freemen of the City of London, or children who have any adequate means of being educated or maintained, or who are lame, crooked, or deformed, so as not to be able to take care of themselves, or have any infectious distemper, as leprosy, scald-head, itch, scab, evil; or rupture, or distemper, which shall be judged incurable, shall be taken into this Hospital on any account, or by any presentation, whatever; and if any such shall happen to be admitted, and afterwards be found disqualified in some or one of these instances, they shall immediately be sent home to their parents, or to the parishes from whence they came.

VI. That none be admitted without a due certificate from the minister, churchwardens, and three of the principal inhabitants of the parish from whence such children come, certifying the age of the said children, and that they have no adequate means of being educated and maintained; the said minister, churchwardens, and inhabitants engaging to discharge the Hospital of them before or after the age of fifteen years, if the Governors shall so require.—If the father is minister of the parish, the certificate to be signed by the officiating minister of a neighbouring parish.

VII. To prevent children being admitted contrary to the above Rules, they shall be presented to a General Court, who will examine into the truth of the certificates, vouchers, and testimonials required, touching their age, birth, orphanage, or other qualifications, or refer the same to the Committee of Almoners, strictly to examine whether the allegations contained in each separate petition and presentation are true, and conformable to the right of the presentor, and the above regulations ; and all such as shall be found otherwise shall be rejected.

OFFICERS.

The establishment in London contains four Classical Masters, a Writing-master, with two Assistant Writing-masters, and two Ushers, Mathematical-master upon King Charles's foundation, and another upon Mr. Travers's, a Drawing-master, Singing-master, Steward, and Matron ; Chief Clerk, Receiver, Assistant Clerks, a Surveyor and Architect, and Solicitor ; a Physician, Surgeon, and Apothecary. There are also six Beadles, three Street-keepers, (who act under the Lord Mayor, in keeping the peace) besides fourteen Nurses and a Cook.

At Hertford, there is a Classical-master, Writing-master, two Ushers, and two Mistresses to

the girls' school, a Steward and Matron, Physician, Surgeon, and Apothecary, two Beadles, nine Nurses and a Cook.

All the Masters, Clerks, and Beadles, have houses within the Hospital (or an allowance in lieu), but no other perquisites, except the first Classical-master, who has an additional allowance for delivering a Sunday-evening Lecture throughout the year, except during the time of the public suppers, and the August vacation.

The duties of the Masters need no definition. The superintendence of the boys, except in school-hours, is vested in the Steward, who takes cognizance of all offences. The interior government of the Wards is confided to the Nurses, assisted by the Grecians and Monitors; the latter of whom are appointed by the Steward. These Monitors, if in the first reading class, are appointed by the head Classical Master to hear the other boys read and spell between church service on Sundays, and are called Markers. They may be known by a small medal suspended by a light blue ribbon from the button hole on Sundays. As a reward for filling this situation the Classical-master is allowed to grant silver medals upon their leaving school, to those whom he considers most deserving, which are conferred with few exceptions on those who have filled the situations a year or more.

Catechising the Children is a branch of the duty attached to the office of Head Classical-master, who formerly assembled the boys in the Grammar-school weekly, one half on Thursdays, and the other on Saturdays, for the purpose of examining them in the church catechism, psalms, &c. notice being sent to the different schools, for attendance at the appointed time. In this business the Master was assisted by one of the Grecians. When the seats were taken, the number ascertained to be correct, and silence enjoined by the Master striking the desk with the hammer used on such occasions, the Grecian repeated from the church formulary the collect, 'Prevent us, O Lord, in all our doings,' &c. concluding with the Lord's Prayer: about one third of the boys assembled were then examined, the Grecian putting the questions, and the boys returning answers, the others paying strict attention during the whole of the ceremony. By their ready and correct replies, the diligence and fidelity of the Monitors and Markers in suitably preparing them was satisfactorily evinced. When the business was gone through the Master gave the blessing, 'The peace of God, which passes all understanding' &c. and the boys were dismissed. By a recent regulation the catechising of the children is left to the Markers upon a Sunday afternoon, subject to the superintendence of the Head Clas-

sical-master. Those of proper age, after suitable preparation, are presented at certain times to the Bishop of London for confirmation, which ceremony takes place in St. Paul's Cathedral.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

According to the evidence given before the Committee of the House of Commons in 1816, it appears that the gross income of the Hospital, exclusive of the balance in the hands of the Treasurer upon making up the accounts, and arising from all sources, was, in 1814, 44,725*l.* and in 1815, 43,386*l.* The expenditure for the same years was, in 1814, 41,061*l.*; and in 1815, 40,420*l.* These two years may be taken as a general average of the annual expenditure.

The annual amount of salaries in London, in 1815, was 5,244*l.* and at Hertford, 1746*l.* making a total of 6,990*l.* which includes the wages of all the servants, and pensions to retired officers and widows.

The Nurses are paid weekly, provision bills quarterly, and the workmen and tradesmen's bills half-yearly.

The cash-book is balanced every week, signed by the Treasurer, and laid before the Committee as often as they meet. The general account of

receipts and payments is made up at the end of every year, and reported to the General Court in March.

ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE.

From 130 to 150 boys are admitted annually, exclusive of those received upon gifts, by which the Governors are obliged, pursuant to the wills of deceased benefactors, to have 90 children upon the foundation. Of this description are four annually from Guy's Hospital, and the rest from public companies, &c. entitled to present upon the above authorities. The vacancies are filled up as they arise, without waiting for the annual period. When a boy of this description is discharged, notice is given to the parties entitled to present, and his place is filled up the next Committee-day.

Persons desirous of getting children admitted into the Hospital should obtain a list of those Governors who have presentations for the year, which is to be procured at the Counting-house, in the early part of each year. This obtained, the parties see who have the power of serving them, and need make no application in any other quarter.

When a Governor gives a presentation to the friends of a child to be admitted, it is necessary

for them to obtain a certificate of the marriage of the parents, and also a copy of the register of the birth of the child, which must be taken to the Counting-house, any day (holidays excepted), between the hours of nine and three, when the presentation will be filled up, the parents giving a statement of the number of children they have, their income, &c.; and information may then be procured on what day the child will be admitted, should it be found eligible.

Every child is stripped and examined by the medical attendants previous to its being admitted; and upon the report of those gentlemen the admission principally depends.

At the beginning of each year the Steward proclaims in the Hall the names of those boys whose terms expire within the year, and directs them to apprise their friends of the circumstance; the friends, in consequence, usually arrive within a few days of the time, and apply at the Counting-house, where a written discharge is made out, which is required to be delivered to the Steward, and the boy is at liberty to exchange the garb of the house for one more congenial to modern taste.

The masters of those boys that are bound apprentices are entitled to the sum of 5*l.* which will be paid upon producing the indenture, pur-

suant to the will of a benefactor, who has left a sum of money for that purpose; and at the expiration of the apprenticeship the young man may apply for a gift towards setting him up in business. To obtain this he must apply at the Counting-house for a blank petition, which will be given upon his producing the copy of his freedom. This must be signed by himself, his late master, and any Governor who is not of the Committee. As there is a specific sum left for the purpose, the amount of the gift will be in proportion to the number of applicants. It has been known to amount to nearly 20*l.*; but is generally about 5*l.* and never less; so that if the number of applicants is too large to allow 5*l.* to each, they are taken alphabetically as far as the money will go, and those who are unsuccessful take precedence of the new applicants the year following.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION.

The boys are taught—to the utmost extent that is usual in other great schools—reading, writing, arithmetic, all classical learning, and Hebrew; part in mathematics, and part in drawing. According to a recent regulation, all the boys proceed as far in the classics as their age and talent will allow. They all leave at fifteen,

except those who are intended for the university or the sea.

A sufficient number complete the classical course of education to fill up the University exhibitions as they become vacant. About 200 are taught in the classics at Hertford, and are transferred to the London establishment as vacancies occur through the senior boys leaving school.

There are seven Exhibitions or Scholarships for Cambridge, and one for Oxford, belonging to this institution; the value of which at Cambridge, is 60*l. per annum*; and at Pembroke Hall an additional Exhibition from the College making about 100*l.* for the four years, and 50*l.* for the last three years; to which may be added the Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, which are defrayed by the Hospital. The Oxford Exhibition is 10*l.* more, or 70*l.* The Governors discharge all fees of entrance, give 20*l.* towards furnishing the room, 10*l.* for books, and 10*l.* for clothes, making at least 50*l.* for the outfit.

The Grecians, or scholars who fill the exhibitions, are selected by the Head Classical-master, without any interference of the Governors, according to their talents and behaviour, subject to the approval of their friends. In the event of more than one being equally qualified, the choice would fall upon the boy of best behaviour; and if talent and behaviour were both equal, it would

then go by seniority. One exhibition goes every year to Cambridge, and one every seventh year to Oxford, making eight in seven years. These young men being superior classics, generally carry off a considerable number of College and University prizes.

SPEECH DAY.

On St. Matthew's Day (Sept. 21) the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and Governors, attend at Christ Church, where an anthem is sung by the boys, and a Sermon preached by one of the gentlemen who have lately returned from College; after which his Lordship, accompanied by the Sheriffs and Governors, proceeds to the Hall, where two Orations are delivered—one in English by the Senior Scholar, who soon after goes to College; and the other in Latin, by the next in rotation. A handsome collection is then made for the youths, and his Lordship and the Governors retire to the Court-room, where an excellent dinner is served up under the superintendence of the Steward. The contribution is always sufficiently ample to settle the young man comfortably in College.

EXAMINATION DAY.

Two Examinations take place in the course of the year, *viz.* in March and September, when the senior boys in the Grammar-school are examined as to their progress in the classics by the head master of St. Paul's School ; in reading, by the Rev. Mr. Prince ; and in arithmetic, by a gentleman appointed by the Governors for that purpose, who distributes two gold and four silver medals to the six boys who evince the greatest proficiency.

Twelve boys are selected by the Examiner, after a previous examination, to contend for the arithmetical prizes upon Examination Day, six of whom must be unsuccessful. The writer having thrice had the honour of being appointed a candidate, can add his humble testimony to the impartiality of the whole proceeding. The practice adopted by the Examiner is to read the questions to the boys, for them to copy upon their slates, after which, upon a given signal, they begin, and the boy first done turns his slate face downwards upon the table before the Examiner ; the second places his in the same manner upon the first ; and so on till they have all finished, when the slates are turned up altogether, and each boy reads his own answer. The Examiner then writes down the names of those boys whose sums are right,

and the first two boys that have done the greatest number are declared entitled to the gold medals, and the next four have a silver medal each.

Prize pieces in penmanship are also exhibited; and the Treasurer awards two silver gilt pens to the best writers, and the other boys that write prize pieces have each a small silver medal given them.

The boys who write the prize pieces are selected by the master. They are exhibited without any names, only the master's private mark at the back, and in this state the Treasurer, assisted by the Governors present, declares to which the prize appertains. The boys afterwards affix their names to their pieces, and take them to their friends.

The other pieces written for the occasion are laid out upon the dining tables in the Hall, and each boy has his own performances placed before him. Prize drawings are also hung up in the Hall, and a medal awarded to the boy who executed the best.

The mathematical boys undergo a similar examination, and prizes are awarded accordingly.

SCHOOL HOURS.

From the first of March to the 31st of October, school begins at seven o'clock, and continues till

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eight; again from nine till twelve. In the afternoon from two till five.

From the 1st of November to the last day of February, school begins at eight o'clock; again from ten till twelve. In the afternoon from two till four.

VACATIONS.

At Easter there is a vacation of a fortnight, the first week being what is called the clothing week. On Easter Monday the boys walk in procession, accompanied by the Masters and Steward, to the Royal Exchange, where they wait till the Lord Mayor is ready to accompany them to Christ Church. His Lordship and the Lady Mayoress being joined by the Sheriffs, the Aldermen, the Recorder, Chamberlain, Town Clerk, and other City Officers, with their ladies, proceed to Christ Church, where a Sermon is preached and an anthem sung; after which the boys have leave to visit their friends.

On Easter Tuesday the boys walk in procession, attended by the Steward, Matron, Nurses, &c. to the Mansion-house, where they have the honour of being presented individually to the Lord Mayor, who gives to each boy a new sixpence, a glass of wine, and a couple of buns;

after which his Lordship again repairs to Christ Church, where a Sermon is preached and an anthem sung, as on Monday. These are what are termed the Spital Sermons.

The rest of the week is the same as the other vacations, Wednesday being a whole holiday, or *leave*, and Friday being a *half-day leave*. On the Monday following School is resumed. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, in the vacation weeks, are the days allotted for the boys to visit their friends, and are termed *leaves*; all other days when there is no school, and they are not allowed to leave the Hospital, are termed holidays only. Monday after the holidays is called *funcking Monday*. The very name recalls to the mind of the writer all its terrors, when there has been an old reckoning to settle for neglected performances before the holidays; in which feeling no doubt many old school-fellows who read this will participate.

Every Sunday evening from Christmas to Easter is appropriated to the public suppers; when company is admitted into the Hall to witness the ceremony, which to strangers in particular, is a very interesting sight. It is necessary upon these occasions to be introduced by a Governor. After supper an Anthem is sung, and the boys pass in rotation in couples before the President or Treasurer (which ever may happen to fill the chair),

to whom they make their bow and retire. The sight of so many children, where there is so much order preserved, some with bread baskets, others with knife-baskets, table-cloths, &c. can surely never be termed an uninteresting spectacle. This ceremony was of course discontinued during the building of the new Hall; but from the accommodation afforded to the public it is presumed that the practice will be resumed now that noble building is finished.

At Whitsuntide a week's vacation is allowed, exactly upon the same plan with respect to *leaves* as at Easter.

From Whitsuntide they go on with only the intermission of half-day *leaves* on Saints' days, &c. till the August vacation, which lasts a month; and it is at this time that the privilege of sleeping out is granted. This indulgence being intended for the accommodation of those boys whose friends reside in the country, is conceded upon certain conditions; the boy must not be seen within five miles of the Hospital during the time, except in going and returning. Application is made by the friends of the boy to the Steward, and the success of it depends principally upon good behaviour. No boy is permitted to sleep out at any other time, except when it is recommended by the medical establishment, and then the time is determined by the health of the party.

At Christmas one week beyond the week in which Christmas-day falls, is all the holidays allowed. On Christmas Eve the boys are suffered to visit their friends, but on Christmas day no one is on any account permitted to leave the Hospital. The reader must not imagine from this that the festivities of the season are here disregarded: quite the contrary. Besides the kind remembrances of friends, which at this time of the year are considerable, the boys are in the habit of hoarding their money, for the purpose of supporting the usual conviviality. Few of those who have acted their part in these scenes, can forget the real enjoyment that the boys created for themselves. With the long settles drawn round a roasting fire, the festivities of the day commence after dinner, by a general distribution of the 'good things,' among those who have not been so fortunate in receiving parcels from their friends; for on this day those distinctions which are observed at other times are suspended, and Monitors and Grecians enter fully and freely into the amusements with the general fry, and the close of the day is devoted to every kind of innocent juvenile conviviality. For a week previous, the elder boys are allowed to sit up for an extra hour or two in the evening, to sing the Christmas Carol, &c. which is performed in full chorus more than once during the day.

Besides the holidays before-mentioned every red-letter day is a holiday, and most of them *leaves*; and there are a few more, which appear to depend entirely upon good behaviour, but which custom has established as independent of it as any other holidays; of this description is the Wardrobe-keeper's holiday, the Nurse's holiday, the Steward's holiday, &c.

It is the custom for the Wardrobe-keeper, after serving out the new clothes, to make an application to the Steward for a *leave* for the boys, on account of their good behaviour, which is always granted.—The Nurse's holiday is on the Thursday before the August vacation; and as the boys are always in School till three o'clock on Thursday afternoons, it is necessary for them to apply to the Masters as well as the Steward.—The Steward's holiday is on his birth-day.

A library has within these few years been established within the Hospital; and no book is allowed to be read until it has been inspected by the head-master. The books are interchanged amongst the several wards as occasion requires.

FORM OF PRAYER,

AND MODE OF OBSERVING THE SABBATH.

Christ's Hospital is properly designated a 'religious' as well as 'a royal and ancient founda-

tion,' and consistently with the appellation the Governors and Masters have ever bestowed laudable care in inculcating sound religious principles into the minds of the youth. The form of prayer and graces now in use was drawn up by Dr. Compton, Bishop of London, to whom the Reformation was much indebted, and is well adapted to the purpose. A portion of it is read in the morning before breakfast, at dinner, and supper, and previously to retiring to rest, always preceded by a part of the psalms or chapter for the day, and a verse or more sung by the children from a selection of the psalms made for their use, and by them committed to memory. The children invariably attend church in the morning and afternoon of the Sabbath-day, throughout the year, as well as in the morning of Saints and other days observed by the rubric of the church. The procession is formed in the cloisters, in the order of the wards, a convenient time before service begins, and from thence preceded by the Steward, and attended by the Beadles, they repair to Christ Church, Newgate-street, which adjoins the Hospital, where galleries are appropriated to their accomodation. Here they are under the inspection of the Steward, Beadles, and Grecians ; and it is truly gratifying to witness the strict order and decorum maintained among so vast an assemblage, the propriety and effect with

which they assist in the responses and psalmody. The whole body may here be seen at one view, a spectacle which can only be obtained elsewhere in the great Hall, while at their meals. Certain hours of the Sabbath are assigned to reading the Scriptures, repeating the Catechism, &c. by the boys being divided into classes, under their respective Monitors or Markers, and the Head Classical-master either himself visits the wards, or deputes the Grecians to see the duty properly performed. No recreation beyond walking is allowed on Sunday. Here may be witnessed one glorious result of the Reformation: instead of the former tenants, the Grey Friars,—deluded votaries of a blind superstition, affecting solitude, and the shade of the cloister,—may be seen a youthful train educated in enlightened principles, withdrawn from the world only for a time, to be restored to it with a greater capacity of acting well their parts on the great stage of life. The solemnity of the Sabbath is concluded by the boys singing the burial anthem instead of a part of a psalm as on other evenings, previous to retiring to rest; a ceremony well calculated to instil into the youthful mind the Christian doctrine, ‘In the midst of life we are in death,’ &c.

MEALS.

To the wholesome but plain food allowed by the Governors is to be mainly attributed the healthy appearance of the children ; yet there are to be found advocates of a different system, and one that would tend to introduce habits of effeminacy. The meal that has been found most fault with, is the breakfast ; but those who complain of the boys having bread only ought in justice to shew that the introduction of more luxurious habits would be equally beneficial to the health of the children. The addition of butter at breakfast might meet the views of those who wish to reform, or perhaps overturn the present system ; but it is surely a question whether the Governors of an extensive national establishment like this ought not to make a stand against, rather than follow, the increasing effeminacy and luxuriousness of the age, especially where no possible advantage could arise to the children under their care by the alteration. Such appears to have been the opinion of the Governors hitherto, and to this more than any other cause is to be attributed the remarkably robust and healthy appearance of the boys.

The breakfast was till recently bread, with beer, if the boys liked it ; but they generally preferred

the more wholesome stream from the new pump. By a late regulation this meal has been changed to bread and milk, an alteration that will meet the approbation, it is hoped, of the most fastidious tastes. For dinner meat is allowed four days of the week ; the other three days the dinner consists of milk-porridge, rice-milk, and pea-soup. The dietary of the week (and every week is the same) is : Sunday, roast beef. Monday, milk-porridge ; with bread and butter. Tuesday, roast mutton. Wednesday, rice-milk ; with bread and butter. Thursday, boiled beef. Friday, boiled mutton. Saturday, pea-soup, with bread and butter. This arrangement has exercised the ingenuity of the boys in parody.

Many other instances might be cited, in which they have shown considerable jocularity, but the present is the only one in point :

Sunday all saints,
Monday all souls,
Tuesday all trenchers,
Wednesday all bowls,
Thursday tough jack.
Friday no better,

Saturday pea-soup, with bread and butter.

For supper bread and cheese is provided every evening, except Sundays, with the privilege of any boy having butter who prefers it. On Sunday they all have bread and butter.

The only remnant of a monastic establishment, since the Refectory has been modernised into the great Hall, and the Dormitories into Wards, is the Buttery, the use of which will be best explained by transferring it into the pantry and beer cellar; but a great similarity with the manners of the monkish æra still exists. The boys at this time eat their meat off wooden trenchers, and take their soup out of wooden bowls with wooden spoons. These, with the old leathern jack for the beer, and the piggin into which it is poured, give us a tolerable idea of the primitive manners of our ancestors generally, and of the cloister in particular. The little community here established has its peculiarities in many points, and is as completely unconnected with the youth of the neighbourhood as if it were situated a hundred miles from any human habitation. The games of the boys differ materially from all other boys, and they are so strongly impressed with the idea of their isolated situation, that they never think of looking beyond the bounds of their own domain for any amusement. They have their own currency, and all the money once carried within those gates must be changed into Hospital money before their own shopkeepers are allowed to deal.

Two of the beadles act as bankers in this particular. As in getting a large note changed the holder may have the change in what way he

pleases, so in this little fraternity can the fortunate holder of sixpence demand of these bankers 'threepence house and threepence town money.' The simile may be carried much further, and a better illustration of the value of money by its abundance or scarcity could scarcely be found than among this juvenile community. Every Blue will recollect the difference of prices a week or two before, with the prices during, and subsequent to the holidays. The same boy who in the marble season might be heard calling 'Who'll buy twelve?' a few days before the holidays, would upon the 'influx of the precious metals' immediately raise his prices at least 50 *per cent.* and call again 'Who'll buy eight?' 'Time bargains were also by no means uncommon; so far from it that it is doubtful whether the Gentlemen of the Stock Exchange did not borrow the idea from the Stock Exchange in Newgate-street. However, be that as it may, every one who has been there must recollect how common it was to promise sixpence in the holidays for threepence at the time present. We had our 'bulls' and 'bears' too, but they were not the same calculating animals as the bulls and bears of our neighbours.

Under the Infirmary should have been noticed a ceremony as interesting as it is rare. Death is

a circumstance that so seldom occurs, that few comparatively have had the opportunity of paying the last sad tribute of regard to the memory of a departed schoolfellow ; but when the melancholy occasion does occur, a more solemn and interesting ceremony can scarcely be witnessed. Having taken part in one of those duties, I feel a melancholy pleasure in recording it : A procession was formed in the square of the Infirmary, which consisted of the Beadles, the Steward, the boys of the same ward as the deceased, the choir boys, the Minister (the head classical master), and Clerk ; then the corpse, followed by relations and friends as mourners. As soon as the boys entered the cloisters they began singing the burial anthem, which they continued all around, and until they reached the burial ground, when the Minister (as in other cases) began the funeral service. The cloisters at such a time are cleared of all but those who assist in the mournful ceremony, which adds greatly to the solemnity ; indeed it is hardly possible to describe the effect when the procession is pacing those reverberating remains of the old Priory, gloomy at all seasons when cleared of those who give life to the scene, but doubly so upon these occasions. The echo of the burial anthem at this time has an effect of which those only who witness the ceremony can form an adequate idea.

The following character of the boys of Christ's Hospital, from the pen of Mr. Charles Lambe, is so just, and at the same time so interesting, that no apology can be necessary for the insertion.

ON CHRIST'S HOSPITAL,

AND THE CHARACTER OF THE BOYS.

A great deal has been said about the Governors of this Hospital abusing their right of presentation, by presenting the children of opulent parents to the institution. This may have been the case in an instance or two ; and what wonder in an establishment, consisting in town and country, of upwards of a thousand boys ! But I believe there is no great danger of an abuse of this sort ever becoming very general. There is an old quality in human nature which will perpetually present an adequate preventive to this evil. While the coarse blue coat and the yellow hose shall continue to be the costume of the school, (and never may modern refinement innovate upon the venerable fashion !) the sons of the aristocracy of this country, cleric or laic, will not often be obtruded upon this seminary.

I own I wish there was more room for such complaints. I cannot but think that a sprinkling of the sons of respectable parents among them has an admirable tendency to liberalize the whole

mass ; and that to the great proportion of Clergymen's children in particular which are to be found among them it is owing, that the foundation has not long since degenerated into a mere charity school, as it must do upon the plan so hotly recommended by some reformists, of recruiting its ranks from the offspring of none but the very lowest of the people.

I am not learned enough in the History of the Hospital to say by what steps it may have departed from the letter of its original charter ; but believing it as it is at present constituted, to be a great practical benefit, I am not anxious to revert to first principles to overturn a positive good, under pretence of restoring something which existed in the days of Edward the Sixth, when the face of every thing around us was as different as can be from the present. Since that time the opportunities of instruction to the very lowest classes (of as much instruction as may be beneficial and not pernicious to them) have multiplied beyond what the prophetic spirit of the first suggester of this charity could have predicted, or the wishes of that holy man even aspired to. There are parochial schools, and Bell's and Lancaster's, with their arms open to receive every son of ignorance, and disperse the last fog of uninstructed darkness which dwells upon the land. What harm then, if in the heart of this noble City

there should be left one receptacle, where parents of rather more liberal views, but whose time-straitened circumstances do not admit of affording their children that better sort of education which they themselves, not without cost to their parents, have received, may without cost send their sons? For such Christ's Hospital unfolds her bounty. To comfort the desponding parent with the thought that without diminishing the stock which is imperiously demanded to furnish the more pressing and homely wants of our nature, he has disposed of one or more perhaps out of a numerous offspring, under the shelter of a care scarce less tender than the paternal, where not only their bodily cravings shall be supplied, but that mental *pabulum* is also dispensed, which He hath declared to be no less necessary to our sustenance, who said that 'not by bread alone man can live.' Here neither on the one hand are the youth lifted up above their family, which we have supposed liberal, though reduced; nor, on the other hand are they liable to be depressed below its level by the mean habits and sentiments which a common charity school generates. It is, in a word, an institution to keep those who have yet held up their heads in the world from sinking; to keep alive the spirit of a decent household, when poverty was in danger of crushing it; to assist those who are the most willing,

but not always the most able to assist themselves; to separate a child from his family for a season, in order to render him back hereafter, with feelings and habits more congenial to it than he could ever have attained by remaining at home in the bosom of it. It is a preserving and renovating principle, an antidote for the *res angusta domi*, when it presses, as it always does, most heavily upon the most ingenuous natures.

This is Christ's Hospital; and whether its character would be improved by confining its advantages to the very lowest of the people, let those judge who have witnessed the looks, the gestures, the behaviour, the manner of their play with one another, their deportment towards strangers, the whole aspect and physiognomy of the vast assemblage of boys on the London foundation, who freshen and make alive again with their sports the else mouldering cloisters of the old Grey Friars— which strangers who have never witnessed, if they pass through Newgate-street or by Smithfield, would do well to go a little out of the way to see: let those judge, I say, who have compared this scene with the abject countenances, the squalid mirth, the broken down spirit, and crouching, or else fierce and brutal deportment to strangers, of the very different sets of little beings who range round the precincts of common orphan schools and places of charity.

For the Christ's Hospital boy feels that he is no charity boy ; he feels it in the antiquity and regularity of the foundation to which he belongs ; in the usage which he meets with at school, and the treatment he is accustomed to out of its bounds ; in the respect and even kindness, which his well known garb never fails to procure him in the streets of the metropolis ; he feels it in his education, in that measure of classical attainments which every individual at that school, though not destined to a learned profession, has it in its power to procure, attainments, which it would be worse than folly to put in the reach of the labouring classes to acquire : he feels it in the numberless comforts, and even magnificences, which surround him ; in his old and awful cloisters, with their traditions ; in his spacious school-rooms, and in the well-ordered, airy, and lofty rooms where he sleeps ; in his stately dining-hall, hung round with pictures by Verrio, Lely, and others, one of them surpassing in size and grandeur almost any other in the kingdom ; above all, in the very extent and magnitude of the body to which he belongs, and the consequent spirit, the intelligence, and public conscience, which is the result of so many various, yet wonderfully combining members. Compared with this last named advantage, what is the stock of information, (I do not here speak of

book-learning, but of that knowledge which boy receives from boy,) the mass of collected opinions, the intelligence in common, among the few and narrow members of an ordinary boarding-school.

The Christ's Hospital or Blue-coat boy has a distinctive character of his own, as far removed from the abject qualities of a common charity-boy, as it is from the disgusting forwardness of a lad brought up at some other of the public schools. There is a *pride* in it accumulated from the circumstances which I have described as differencing him from the former; and there is a *restraining modesty*, from a sense of obligation and dependence, which must ever keep his deportment from assimilating to that of the latter. His very garb, as it is antique and venerable, feeds his self-respect; as it is a badge of dependence, it restrains the natural petulance of that age from breaking out into overt acts of insolence. This produces silence and a reserve before strangers, yet not that cowardly shyness which boys mewed up at home will feel; he will speak up when spoken to, but the stranger must begin the conversation with him. Within his bounds he is all fire and play; but in the streets he steals along with all the self-concentration of a young monk. He is never known to mix with other boys; they are a sort of laity to him. All this proceeds, I have no doubt, from

the continual consciousness which he carries about him of the difference of his dress from that of the rest of the world ; with a modest jealousy over himself, lest by over-hastily mixing with common and secular playfellows he should commit the dignity of his cloth. Nor let any one laugh at this ; for considering the propensity of the multitude, and especially of the small multitude, to ridicule any thing unusual in dress—above all, where such peculiarity may be construed by malice into a mark of disparagement—this reserve will appear to be nothing more than a wise instinct in the Blue-coat boy. That it is neither pride nor rusticity, at least that it has none of the offensive qualities of either, a stranger may soon satisfy himself by putting a question to any of these boys: he may be sure of an answer couched in terms of plain civility, neither loquacious nor embarrassed. Let him put the same question to a Parish boy, or to one of the Trencher caps in the———Cloisters ; and the impudent reply of the one shall not fail to exasperate, any more than the certain servility and mercenary eye to reward, which he will meet with in the other, can fail to depress and sadden him.

The Christ's Hospital boy is a religious character. His school is eminently a religious foundation ; it has its peculiar prayers, its services

at set times, its graces, hymns, and anthems, following each other in an almost monastic closeness of succession. This religious character in him is not always untinged with superstition. That is not wonderful, when we consider the thousand tales and traditions which must circulate with undisturbed credulity among so many boys, that have so few checks to their belief from any intercourse with the world at large; upon whom their equals in age must work so much, their elders so little. With this leaning towards an over belief in matters of religion, which will soon correct itself when he comes out into society, may be classed a turn for romance above most other boys. This is to be traced in the same manner to their excess of society with each other, and defect of mingling with the world. Hence the peculiar avidity with which such books as the *Arabian Night's Entertainments*, and others of a still wilder cast, are, or at least were in my time, sought for by the boys. I remember when some half dozen of them set off from school, without map, card, or compass, on a serious expedition to find out *Philip Quarll's Island*.

The Christ's Hospital Boy's sense of right and wrong is peculiarly tender and apprehensive. It is even apt to run into ceremonial observances; and to impose a yoke upon itself beyond the strict obligations of the moral law. Those who

were contemporaries with me at that school between forty and fifty years ago, will remember with what more than Judaic rigour the eating of the fat of certain boiled meats was interdicted. A boy would have blushed as at the exposure of some heinous immorality to have been detected eating that forbidden portion of his allowance of animal food, the whole of which, while he was in health, was little more than sufficient to allay his hunger. The same or even greater refinement was shewn in the rejection of certain kinds of sweet cake. What gave rise to these supererogatory penances, these self denying ordinances, I could never learn ; they certainly argue no defect of the conscientious principle. A little excess in that article is not undesirable in youth, to make allowance for the inevitable waste which comes in mature years. I am told that the late Steward, who has evinced on many occasions a most praiseworthy anxiety to promote the comfort of the boys, had occasion for all his address and perseverance to eradicate the first of these unfortunate prejudices, in which he at length happily succeeded, and thereby restored to one half of the animal nutrition of the school those honours which painful superstition and blind zeal had so long conspired to withhold from it. [Such may possibly be the case at present, but twenty years after Mr. Lambe's time the custom remained unaltered.]

In the less ambiguous line of duty, in those directions of the moral feelings which cannot be mistaken or depreciated, I will relate what took place in the year 1785, when Mr. Perry, the Steward died. I must be pardoned for taking instances from my own times. Indeed the vividness of my recollections, while I am upon this subject almost brings back those times; they are present to me still. But I believe that in the years which have elapsed since the period which I speak of, the character of the Christ's Hospital boy is very little changed. Their situation in point of many comforts is improved; but that which I ventured before to term the *public conscience* of the School, the pervading moral sense of which every mind partakes, and to which so many individual minds contribute, remains, I believe, pretty much the same as when I left it. I have seen within this twelvemonth almost, the change which has been produced upon a boy of eight or nine years of age, upon being admitted into that school; how from a pert young coxcomb, who thought that all knowledge was comprehended within his shallow brains, because a smattering of two or three languages and one or two sciences were stuffed into him by injudicious treatment at home, by a mixture with the wholesome society of so many schoolfellows, in less time than I have spoken of, he has sunk to his

own level, and is contented to be carried on the quiet orb of modest self-knowledge in which the common mass of that unpresumptuous assemblage of boys seem to move on; from being a little unfeeling mortal, he has got to feel and reflect. Nor would it be a difficult matter to shew how at a school like this, where the boy is neither entirely separated from home, nor yet exclusively under its influence, the best feelings, the filial for instance, are brought to a maturity which they could not have attained under a completely domestic education; how the relation of parent is rendered less tender by unremitted association, and the very awfulness of age is best apprehended by some sojourning amidst the comparative levity of youth; how absence, not drawn out by too great extension into alienation or forgetfulness, puts an edge upon the relish of occasional intercourse, and the boy is made the better *child* by that which keeps the force of that relation from being felt as perpetually pressing on him; how the substituted paternity, into the care of which he is adopted, while in every thing substantial it makes up for the natural, in the necessary omission of individual fondnesses and partialities, directs the mind only the more strongly to appreciate the natural and first tie, in which such weaknesses are the bond of strength, and the appetite which craves after them betrays no perverse palate. But these

speculations rather belong to the question of the comparative advantages of a public over a private education in general. I must get back to my favourite school; and to that which took place when our old and good Steward died.

I will say, that when I think of the frequent instances which I have met with in children, of a hard-heartedness, a callousness, and insensibility to the loss of relations, even of those who have begot and nourished them, I cannot but consider it as a proof of something in the peculiar conformation of that School, favourable to the expansion of the best feelings of our nature, that, at the period which I am noticing, out of five hundred boys there was not a dry eye to be found among them, nor a heart that did not beat with genuine emotion. Every impulse for play, until the funeral day was past, seemed suspended throughout the School; and the boys, lately so mirthful and sprightly, were seen pacing their Cloisters alone, or in sad groupes standing about, few of them without some token, such as their slender means could provide, a black ribband, or something to denote respect and a sense of their loss. The time itself was a time of anarchy, a time in which all authority out of school-hours was abandoned. The ordinary restraints were for those days superseded; and the gates which at other times

kept us in, were left without watchers. Yet with the exception of one or two graceless boys at most, who took advantage of that suspension of authorities to *skulk* out, as it was called, the whole body of that great School kept rigorously within their bounds by a voluntary self-imprisonment; and they who broke bounds, though they escaped punishment from any Master, fell into general disrepute among us, and for that which at any other time would have been applauded and admired as a mark of spirit, were consigned to infamy and reprobation: so much *natural government* have gratitude and the principles of reverence and love, and so much did a respect to their dead friend prevail with these Christ Hospital boys above any fear which his presence among them when living could ever produce. And, if the impressions which were made on my mind so long ago are to be trusted, very richly did their Steward deserve this tribute. It is a pleasure to me, even now, to call to mind his portly form, the regal awe which he always contrived to inspire, in spite of a tenderness and even weakness of nature that would have enfeebled the reins of discipline in any other master; a yearning of tenderness towards those under his protection, which could make five hundred boys at once feel towards him each as their individual father. He had faults with which we have nothing

to do; but with all his faults, indeed Mr. Perry was a most extraordinary creature.

I have often considered it among the felicities of the constitution of this School, that the offices of Steward and School-master are kept distinct; the strict business of education alone devolving upon the latter, while the former has the charge of all things out of the school, the control of the provisions, the regulation of meals, of dress, of play, and the ordinary intercourse of the boys. By this division of management, a superior respectability must attach to the teacher, while his office is unmixed with any of these lower concerns. A still greater advantage over the construction of common boarding schools is to be found in the settled salaries of the Masters, rendering them totally free of obligation to any individual pupil or his parents. This never fails to have its effect at schools where each boy can reckon up to a hair what profit the master derives from him; where he views him every day in the light of a caterer, a provider for the family, who is to get so much by him at each of his meals. Boys will see and consider these things; and how much must the sacred character of preceptor suffer in their minds by these degrading associations! The very bill which the pupil carries home with him at Christmas, eked out with elaborate though necessary minuteness, instructs

him that his teachers have other ends than the mere love to learning in the lessons which they give him; and though they put into his hands the fine sayings of Seneca or Epictetus, yet they themselves are none of those distinguished pedagogues to teach philosophy *gratis*. The master, too, is sensible that he is seen in this light; and how much this must lessen that affectionate regard to the learners which alone can sweeten the bitter labour of instruction, and convert the whole business into unwelcome and uninteresting task-work, many preceptors that I have conversed with on the subject are ready with a sad heart to acknowledge. From this inconvenience the settled salaries of the Masters of this school in great measure exempt them; while the happy custom of choosing masters (indeed every Officer of the Establishment) from those who have received their education there, gives them an interest in advancing the character of the School, and binds them to observe a respect and a tenderness to the children, in which a stranger, feeling that independance which I have spoken of, might well be expected to fail.

In affectionate recollections of the place where he was bred up, in hearty recognition of old school-fellows, met with again after the lapse of years, or in foreign countries, the Christ's Hospital boy yields to none; I might almost say he

goes beyond most other boys. The very compass and magnitude of the School, its thousand bearings, the space it takes up in the imagination beyond the sphere of ordinary schools, impresses a remembrance accompanied with an elevation of mind, that attends him through life. It is too big, too affecting an object, to pass away quickly from his mind. The Christ's Hospital boy's friends at School are commonly his intimates through life. For me I do not know whether a constitutional imbecility does not incline me too obstinately to cling to the remembrances of childhood; in an inverted ratio to the usual sentiments of mankind, nothing that I have been engaged in seems of any value or importance compared to the colours which imagination gave to every thing then. I belong to no *body corporate* such as I then made part of. And here before I close, taking leave of the general reader and addressing myself solely to my old school-fellows, that were contemporaries with me from the year 1782 to 1789, let me have leave to remember some of those circumstances of our School, which they will not be unwilling to have brought to their minds.

And first let us remember, as first in importance in our childish eyes, the young men (as they almost were) who under the denomination of *Grecians*, were waiting the expiration of the

period when they should be sent, at the charge of the Hospital, to one or other of our Universities, but more frequently to Cambridge. These youths, from their superior acquirements, their superior age and stature, and the fewness of their numbers (for seldom above two or three at a time were inaugurated into that high order), drew the eyes of all, and especially of the younger boys, into a reverent observance and admiration. How tall they used to seem to us ! how stately would they pace along the Cloisters !—while the play of the lesser boys was absolutely suspended, or its boisterousness at least allayed, at their presence ! Not that they ever beat or struck the boys—that would have been to have demeaned themselves—the dignity of their persons alone ensured them all respect. The task of blows, of corporal chastisement, they left to the common monitors, or heads of wards, who, it must be confessed, in our time, had rather too much licence allowed them to oppress and misuse their inferiors ; and the interference of the Grecian, who may be considered as the spiritual power, was not unfrequently called for, to mitigate, by its mediation, the heavy unrelenting arm of this temporal power or monitor. In fine, the Grecians were the solemn Muftis of the School. Æras were computed from their time ; it used to be said such or such a thing was done when S———or T———was Grecian.

As I ventured to call the Grecians the Muftis of the School, the King's boys, as their character then was, may well pass for the Janizaries. They were the terror of all the other boys ; bred up under that hardy sailor, as well as excellent mathematician, and co-navigator with Captain Cook, William Wales, all his systems were adapted to fit them for the rough element which they were destined to encounter. Frequent and severe punishments, which were expected to be borne with more than Spartan fortitude, came to be considered less as inflictions of disgrace than as trials of obstinate endurance. To make his boys hardy, and to give them early sailor habits, seemed to be his only aim ; to this every thing was subordinate. Moral obliquities, indeed, were sure of receiving their full recompence, for no occasion of laying on the lash was ever let slip ; but the effects expected to be produced were something very different from contrition or mortification. There was in William Wales a perpetual fund of humour, a constant glee about him, which, heightened by an inveterate provincialism of north-country dialect, absolutely took away the sting from his severities. His punishments were a game of patience, in which the Master was not always worse contented when he found himself at times overcome by his pupil. What success this discipline had, or how the effects of it operated on the

after-lives of these King's boys, I cannot say; but I am sure that, for the time, they were absolute nuisances to the rest of the School. Hardy, brutal, and often wicked, they were the most graceless lump in the whole mass; older and bigger than the other boys, (for by the system of their education they were kept longer at school by two or three years than any of the rest, except the Grecians,) they were a constant terror to the younger part of the School; and some who may read this, I doubt not, will remember the consternation into which the juvenile fry of us was thrown, when the cry was raised in the Cloisters, that *the First Order was coming*—for so they termed the first form or class of those boys. Still these sea-boys answered some good purposes in the School.' They were the military class among the boys, foremost in athletic exercises, who extended the fame of the prowess of the School far and near; and the apprentices in the vicinage, and sometimes the butchers' boys in the neighbouring market, had sad occasion to attest their valour.

The time would fail me if I were to attempt to enumerate all those circumstances, some pleasant, some attended with pain, which, seen through the mist of distance, come sweetly softened to the memory. But I must crave leave to remember our transcending superiority in those invigorating

sports, leap-frog and basting the bear ; our delightful excursions in the summer holidays to the New River, near Newington, where, like others, we would live the long day in the water, never caring for dressing ourselves when we had once stript ; our savoury meals afterwards, when we came home almost famished with staying out all day without our dinners ; our visits at other times to the Tower, where, by antient privilege, we had free access to all the curiosities ; our solemn processions through the City, at Easter, with the Lord Mayor's largess of buns, wine, and a sixpence, with the festive questions and civic pleasantries of the dispensing Aldermen, which were more to us than all the rest of the banquet ; our stately suppers in public, where the well-lighted hall, and the confluence of well-dressed company who came to see us, made the whole look more like a concert or assembly, than a scene of a plain bread and butter collation ; the annual orations upon St. Matthew's Day, in which the senior Scholar, before he had done, seldom failed to reckon up, among those who had done honour to our School by being educated in it, the names of those accomplished critics and Greek scholars, Joshua Barnes and Jeremiah Markland (I marvel they left out Camden while they were about it). Let me have leave to remember our hymns and anthems, and well-toned organ ; the doleful tone

of the burial anthem chaunted in the solemn Cloisters, upon the seldom-occurring funeral of some school-fellow; the festivities at Christmas, when the richest of us would club our stock to have a gaudy day, sitting round the fire, replenished to the height with logs; and the penniless, and he that could contribute nothing, partook in all the mirth, and in some of the substantialities of the feasting; the carol sung by night at that time of the year which, when a young boy, I have so often lain awake from seven (the hour of going to bed) until ten, when it was sung by the older boys and monitors, and have listened to it, in their rude chanting, till I have been transported to the fields of Bethlehem, and the song which was sung at that season by Angels voices to the shepherds.

Nor would I willingly forget any of those things which administered to our vanity. The hem-stitched bands, and town-made shirts, which some of the most fashionable among us wore; the town girdles, with buckles of silver or shining stone; the badges of the sea boys; the cots, or superior shoe-strings of the Monitors; the medals of the Markers (those who were appointed to hear the Bible read in the Wards on Sunday morning and evening), which bore on their obverse in silver, as certain parts of our garments carried, in meaner metal, the countenance of our

Founder, that godly and Royal child, King Edward the Sixth, the flower of the Tudor name—the young flower that was untimely cropped as it began to fill our land with its early odours—the boy patron of boys—the serious and holy child who walked with Cranmer and Ridley—fit associate in those tender years, for the Bishops and future Martyrs of our Church to receive, or (as occasion sometimes proved) to give instruction.

‘ But ah ! what means the silent tear ?

Why e’en ’mid joy my bosom heave ?

Ye long lost scenes, enchantments dear !

Lo ! now I linger o’er your grave.

Fly then ye hours of rosy hue,

And bear away the bloom of years !

And quick succeed ye sickly crew

Of doubts and sorrows, pains and fears !

Still will I ponder Fate’s unalter’d plan,

Nor tracing back the child, forget that I am man.’

Dyer’s Poetics.

The following lines are extracted from a Poem written several years back; and although not distinguished by the sublimity of some of our greater Poets, yet the utility of the foundation, and the progress of a child through the school, is so pathetically described, that no apology is necessary for its insertion.

The Poet, after eulogizing those concerned in the foundation, proceeds :

‘ Such was the rise of this august design,
Of prospect boundless and of aim divine :
On this foundation gradually arose
The noblest structure Britain’s empire knows :
Tho’ England long has been the honor’d seat
Of Charity, her lov’d and fix’d retreat,
Yet one proud fabric on this favoured Isle
Boasts a superior interest in her smile :
It boasts, that there she has display’d a grace,
Beyond the Muse’s amplest powers to trace :
Boasts that within the circle of its walls
Want’s power ceases, and Woe’s scepter falls :
Boasts of the wond’rous blessings there bestow’d
Which help the helpless on life’s thorny road ;
Which waken Industry—which scatter lore —
Stamp Virtue’s image on the mind’s rich ore—
Which foster Genius, and aid its rise
From Want’s cold region to its native skies.

' It was Matilda's happy lot to prove
The heart-felt pleasures of connubial Love.
Long on Life's ocean proudly swell'd the sails
Of her gay bark with Fortune's fairest gales ;
When suddenly Affliction's tempest rose,
And Hope's bright scenes for ever seem'd to close :
Eight summers had Matilda been a bride,
When ev'ry earthly hope with Henry died.
Lo the pale mourner ! her dishevell'd hair,
And frantic gestures speak her soul's despair.

" He's gone ;" she screams, " they've laid
him in the grave, [to save.
" His wife's—his children's—pray'rs have fail'd
" Oh hapless orphan ! oh my darling boy !
" Buried is ev'ry hope of future joy :
" Cold Want shall chill the powers of thy soul,
" Or Vice allure them under its control :
" The hand that should direct thine arduous way
" To Virtue's goal is cold and lifeless clay.
" Go, burst the portal of thy father's tomb,
" And seek thine only shelter in its womb ! "
While yet she speaks she hears a seraph voice,
In soothing accents whisper " Hail, Rejoice. "
She turns, she gazes with a pleasing awe
Upon the fairest form the world e'er saw.
'Tis Charity, arrayed in sweetest smiles,
With countenance that keenest grief beguiles :
" Widow," she cries, " this child of want be mine :
" Not to the tomb, to me your boy resign.

“ To Edward’s friendly dome his steps I’ll lead ;
“ There sheltered from the deadly blights of need,
“ Transplanted in that health-inspiring soil,
“ This bud of Sorrow shall Hope’s blossom smile ;
“ Shall, foster’d by Instruction’s timely care,
“ The fruit of active merit early bear ;
“ And though midst weeds of woe its growth began,
“ Shall ripen into virtuous happy man.”

‘ O Muse, this is no visionary theme,
No charm of fancy, no poetic dream :
Such soothing sounds to many a drooping heart,
The cheering cordial of hope impart ;
And many a smiling evidence appears,
Whose morn of life foreboded only tears.

‘ Mark now the stripling his first thoughts
employ
On his new livery as a Blue-coat Boy !
Matilda views him with a mother’s eyes,
Joys that he stays, and yet to leave him sighs.
Till he, of his new privileges proud,
Flies from her arms, and joins the sportive crowd :
Then grateful, sorrowful, she bends her way,
Cheered with hope’s vision of a future day ;
Which gilds the evening of her life with joy,
When he whom now she leaves a helpless boy,
Mature in years and virtues shall arise
To sooth the cares of age, and close her peaceful
eyes.

‘ Now with a fairy step pleas’d Fancy strays
O’er the sweet vision of my boyish days ;
And follows him through each succeeding school,
Where rigid justice holds impartial rule ;
Where no rich dunce can rise on bags of gold,
Nor meed of merit can be bought or sold ;
Where, as the youthful mind its bias shews,
With dulness freezes or with genius glows,
Its native powers are to science train’d,
Till learning’s highest summit is attain’d ;
Or to pursuits of humbler aim confin’d,
The track is followed nature has design’d :
No barrier crosses Emulation’s plain,
But simply to deserve is to obtain.
Fancy pursues him in all his boyish sports,
And strolls to all his holiday resorts :
When Summer sun-beams, trembling in the wave,
Views him the river’s depth courageous brave :
Or when hoar frost congeals the flowing tide,
Swift o’er its icy bosom sees him glide.

‘ But chief I love in fancy to repair,
On Sabbath ev’nings, to the Hall of Prayer.
O ye within whose bosom warmly glows
A heart, that pitying throbs for human woes ;
A heart, that swells with grateful, joyful sense,
When Mercy smiles on helpless Innocence ;
Oh hither bend your steps, here raptur’d gaze
On living monuments of Edward’s praise !

Here view, beneath one roof, the numerous train
Of Sorrow's offspring, Bounty's stores maintain !
Here view on orphan brows Contentment's air,
'The smile of Innocence devoid of care !
A band of brothers ! scions of one stock !
In the world's wilderness a helpless flock ;
Whom Mercy shelters on this hallow'd ground,
From Want, and Woe, and Vice, which prowl
around.

' Now mark the sacred duties of the place :
Their youthful Priest recites the Word of Grace,
And offers up to Heav'n the Orphan's prayer
For those who make the Orphan's woes their
care.

Now the loud notes of gratitude arise,
And mingle with the chorus of the skies.

' Hail, scene unrivall'd in the world's wide sphere,
Which God himself approves, and Men revere.
When cheerful Spring succeeds to Winter's gloom,
Tis sweet to see the tender branches bloom :
'Tis grateful to reflect upon the care
Which screen'd the scions from the nipping air ;
To see, that spite of chilling frosts and snows,
The plant still flourishes—the flower blows.

' So the Philanthropist on this blest spot,
With conscious joy surveys the Orphan's lot.

His bosom heaves with exquisite delight
To view the mind thus saved from Sorrow's
 blight;

Beneath a genial clime its pow'rs unfold,
By Vice, by Want, unsullied, uncontrol'd :
To mark the onward progress of its course,
Near and more near to its eternal source.
Let ancient Greece, with pride triumphant, claim
The works of Art, and Taste, which bear her name ;
Busts, that with living ardor seem to glow,
Statues, thro' which Life's streams appear to flow :
Let Italy with zealous rapture trace
Her pencil's powers, dignity, and grace :
England, thy Edward's works which grace this
 dome,

Eclipse the proudest arts of Greece and Rome.
The best wrought statues Athens e'er produced,
To scatter'd atoms ages have reduc'd ;
Rome's richest colourings of light and shade,
At ruthless Time's unsparing touch shall fade.
But Charity's immortal works shall last
Beyond th' Archangel's world-dissolving blast :
The mind she forms with still expanding ray,
Shines the bright sun of an eternal day.

‘ Meanwhile, oh Albion ! wide as thy renown,
The fame of Edward's bounty shall be known.
Where'er thy Commerce spreads its daring sails,
Or fill'd with Arctic or Antarctic gales ;

Where'er thy floating tow'rs their thunders pour,
On Hindostan's or Gallia's hostile shore ;
Where'er thy name shines forth in arts refin'd,
Delights the polished—awes the savage mind ;
Where'er the Sciences thy sons improve,
Gain thee just rev'rence and filial love ;
There—many a son of Edward shall proclaim,
With grateful pride, Christ's Hospital's high fame.'

The Poet concludes with the following apostrophe to the Governors :

' On you, illustrious band this vision rests,
On your just councils and your gen'rous breasts ;
Whose bounty zealous, vigilant, benign,
On firmest base sustains the grand design.
To you—your country and your God award
A people's homage and a high reward.
And never, never shall our Edward's pile
Become the fiend Destruction's conquered spoil,
'Till from his fixed abode the sun shall fall,
'Till time be conquered, having conquered all ;
And Dissolution's banners be unfurl'd
Triumphant o'er the void where once revolved the
world.'

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BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF BLUES.

No History of Christ's Hospital can be better closed than by a notice of the extensively useful Institution under the above title. To the persevering industry and public spirit of the Gentlemen forming the Board of Directors, the whole community of Blues are mainly indebted for the establishment of the Society upon its present firm and respectable basis. Letters to the number of 500, inclosing an animated appeal to the humane feelings of their juvenile associates, were industriously circulated, and were attended, if not with the full measure of support to enable the Board of Directors to do all the good contemplated by the Society, at least with as much success as will enable them to commence the most gratifying part of their duty—that of relieving the distresses of the unfortunate companions of their youth.

In 1824, after numerous difficulties had been surmounted, through the persevering zeal of its projectors, the Society was first established. It consists of those persons who have received their

education upon the Royal and Ancient Foundation of CHRIST'S HOSPITAL; and is under the management of a President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Twenty-four Directors.

The object of the Society is to establish a fund for the relief of such Blues as may become reduced in life; and to grant assistance to the distressed widows and Orphans of Blues.

With this design the Regulations have been formed; and the following short statement of the instructions given to the Board of Directors for administering aid to the objects of the Association, will best explain its plan:

“ To grant Annual Pensions, or weekly Allowances to the Aged and Infirm :

“ To afford temporary Relief to distressed Parties,—to grant small Loans to be returned by fixed Instalments :

“ And to relieve the distressed Widows and Orphans of Blues, as the funds of the Society may allow.”

The principles on which the establishment of this Society is contemplated by those who have suggested it, are grounded on its expediency, and are warranted by considerations which apply themselves to the most endearing interests and the purest feelings of associated man. Its pretensions the Board of Directors confidently urge upon the well-nurtured judgments of their Brethren of

Christ's Hospital ; and to their humane consideration and liberal countenance they submit its adoption and promotion, with the presumption, that it affords a most eligible opportunity of spreading the respectability of their name throughout every community of the land.

Such are the principles of the new Society, and the reduction of these principles to practical purposes cannot be better exemplified than by the following extracts from the last half yearly report of the Board of Directors.

“ Amongst the applications which, during the last twelve months, have been presented to the Directors, are to be found the most convincing proofs of the utility of such a Society as this. The professional man, and the man of comparative independance, whose resources have been suddenly taken from them by the immediate visitations of Providence, or by some of those unforeseen reverses to which the transactions of business are daily liable ;—the respectable tradesman, deprived of his well-earned wealth by the occurrence of similar events, or by the fraud or treachery of a professed and confidential friend ;—the man of literary and scientific attainments, whose moderate and often hard-earned gains, barely sufficient to support himself and those dependant on him, have been suspended for a length of time by his inability to procure employment, notwithstanding the exertion of his most arduous endeavours ; the aged man, and the widow, relying solely on their own exertions, and needing often the compassionating hand of charity to aid their precarious and scanty means ; these, and various others, have constituted the claimants on the bounty of this Society, and have obtained from its resources that alleviation of their present wants which has contributed, in some degree at least, to lessen the difficulties of their trying situation.

“ Neither is it only to persons altogether destitute of present resources that the funds of a Society like this may be beneficially and properly applied. The practice of other Institutions, and the nature of some of the cases which have been laid before the BOARD OF DIRECTORS, have shewn it to be highly desirable that the income of the Society should be rendered adequate to meet the exigencies of such as, being not entirely without the means of support, yet possess so small a portion of them as to be wholly unable to procure the comforts, and, at times, even the necessaries of life; particularly at the periods of sickness and of old age, and where the parties have filled respectable situations in society. This will be readily admitted, on considering the small sum which can be afforded by the Society, at present as a Pension, when compared with the income which was before deemed not more than sufficient for those who are now dependant on this small pittance.

“ There is one case however of a peculiarly gratifying nature to the Society, on account of the success with which it has been attended, and which the Directors cannot pass over without notice. The first application received by the Society, was made two years and a half since, by an individual who was a Subscriber to it at its commencement. This individual had a large family to support, and being in a situation of great pecuniary difficulty, in fact on the verge of bankruptcy and probably of eventual ruin, he applied to the Society for a loan. After a careful investigation into the state of his affairs, the Directors having reason to be satisfied with his character, advanced him a sum of money, by which his debts were liquidated, and he was enabled to carry on his business. From that time he has continued to support his family, consisting of nine persons, and to repay the stipulated portions of the loan advanced to him; and having recently obtained, chiefly through the medium of this Society, an additional source of income, he has been enabled to discharge the whole of his debt to the Society, and has again become a contributor to its funds.

“ The Directors feel great pleasure in calling the attention of the Subscribers to that increase in the amount of the Funded Property, which promises ere long to release a larger portion of the Annual Subscriptions for the purposes of temporary relief, a measure extremely desirable ; two cases in particular which came before the Board on a recent occasion, having induced one of our excellent Vice Presidents, then present, to make the Society a special gift of a sum of money, to enable the Directors to relieve the parties more effectually than they could otherwise possibly have done.

“ The Directors are happy to add, that a portion of the increased subscription of the past half-year bears testimony to an additional feeling of interest in the welfare of the Society on the part of their brethren in foreign lands :— and they would strenuously urge on all the Members to use their best endeavours to induce others to join them in this work, as constituting at once the most effectual means of distributing their bounty, and the best proof of their regard towards those who have so strong a claim on their consideration.

The following is the Statement of the accounts of the last Half-year.

21 NO 67

Dr. HENRY WOODTHORPE, Esq. Treasurer, in account with the "BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF BLUES." Cr.

1829.		1829,	
	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
March 31. To Balance in hand from last		May 13. By Collector in lieu of Poundage	5 0 0
Account.....	105 13 1	June 16. *Expenses incidental to the	
June 16. *Amount of Donations and		Dinner	36 14 3
Subscriptions at the Din-		Printing	5 8 6
ner, at the City of London		Pensions	21 15 4
Tavern	149 2 0	Casual Relief.....	41 18 0
To Amount of Donations dur-		Loans	13 0 0
ing the last Half-Year ..	63 0 0	Purchase of £400.—3 per Cent	
Ditto Annual Subscriptions		Consols.....	359 0 0
ditto	124 19 0	Balance in the hands of the	
Sundry Loans re-paid.....	40 17 0	Treasurer	24 15 0
Half-Year's Divd on £1,600			
3 per Cent Consols.....	24 0 0		
	<u>£507 11 1</u>		<u>£507 11 1</u>

RICHARD ROGERS, ..
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 JAMES HILLSTEAD, ... }
 Auditors.

29th September, 1829.

*By comparing the Receipts and Expenditure of the 16th of June, it will be seen that the Dinner added to the funds of the Society £112. 7s. 9d.

Amount of Stock standing in the Names of the Trustees, £2,000—3 per Cent Consols.

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